

IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application. Please amend/cancel/add the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (Amended): An electrokinetic geosynthetic ("EKG") drain structure including at least one conducting element for direct contact with substrates of ground materials, said EKG drain structure comprising at least one reinforcing core element substantially enclosed by at least one sheath, wherein said at least one reinforcing core element defines an outer peripheral surface and comprises channels for drainage or in plane flow transport of fluid, and wherein the said sheath is associated with at least one conducting element substantially surrounds and contacts said outer peripheral surface of said at least one core element, each of said core element and sheath comprising geosynthetic material, said conducting element located on at least said sheath so as to be in direct contact with the substrate and to provide a conductive path with said sheath.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 20 wherein said at least one core element comprises a reinforcing core of geosynthetic enclosing void channels for drainage or in plane flow.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 20 wherein sheath is a substantially closed or enclosing structure suited to contain or retain within it one or more core elements.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 20 wherein said at least one core element or combination of elements is in direct contact with the sheath over substantially all of its outer surface or their combined outer surface.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 20 wherein said sheath is porous or porous in sections.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 20 wherein said conducting element is composite metallic, comprising metal or metal powder dispersed in a solid carrier, or is conducting non-metallic, such as carbon, a conducting polymer or composite thereof.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 20 wherein said conducting element is in the form of a filament, fibre, strand, wire, layer of shaped solid or hollow form, in close association with the sheath.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 20 wherein said conducting element is comprised as conducting material dispersed throughout the sheath such that then sheath itself forms the conducting element.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure as defined in claim 20 as an electrode to serve a drainage function.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): Method of treating a substrate by improving its consolidation, comprising positioning a plurality of electrodes, at least one of which is an EKG structure as defined in claim 20 in situ and applying an electric field between the electrodes.

Claim 30 (New): An electrokinetic geosynthetic ("EKG") structure for direct contact with substrates of ground materials, said EKG structure comprising a porous geosynthetic sheath in the form of a bag, tube, or container substantially enclosing, surrounding and contacting an outer peripheral surface of a core of substrate to be treated, wherein said sheath is associated with comprises geosynthetic material including at least one conducting element comprising a first electrode on said sheath so as to be in direct contact with said core of substrate and to provide a conductive path with said substrate, and wherein at least one second electrode is inserted extending into the core through an opening in the sheath and laterally spaced from the sheath.

Claim 31 (Cancelled)

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 30 wherein said conducting element is composite metallic, comprising metal or metal powder dispersed in a solid carrier, or is conducting non-metallic, such as carbon, a conducting polymer or composite thereof.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 30 wherein said conducting element is in the form of a filament, fibre, strand, wire, layer of shaped solid or hollow form, in close association with the sheath.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): An EKG drain structure in accordance with claim 30 wherein said conducting element is comprised as conducting material dispersed throughout the sheath such that the sheath itself forms the conducting element.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): Use of the EKG structure as defined in claim 30 as an electrode to serve a drainage function.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): Method of treating a substrate by improving its consolidation comprising enclosing a substrate to be treated within an EKG structure as defined in claim 30 and applying an electric field between the first and second electrodes.